

Message Text

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54

ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY NEA/AFN:DLJAMESON

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NEA/ARP:FMDICKMAN

PM:JLADD

DOD/ISA:COL. SKOGERBOE

S/S-O:GTWOHIE

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R 310135Z JAN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY ROME

S E C R E T STATE 022596

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS:MASS, PFOR, SA, LY, IT

SUBJECT: US ARMS AND SPARE PARTS FOR LIBYA

REF: JIDDA 496

1. WE ASSUME PRINCE SULTAN'S LETTER REFERS TO EIGHT C-130 AIRCRAFT (AND ACCOMPANYING SPARES) WHICH LIBYANS HAVE PURCHASED FROM LOCKHEED AND 20 HUEY HELICOPTERS WHICH THEY WANT TO PURCHASE FROM AUGUSTA BELL IN ITALY. WE DO NOT UNDERSTAND REFERENCE TO ARMS AND ARTILLERY. APPLICATIONS FOR LICENSES TO EXPORT BOTH C-130'S AND HELICOPTERS HAVE BEEN PENDING IN DEPT FOR SOME TIME AND HAVE BEEN WITHHELD BECAUSE OF UNFAVORABLE STATE OF US-LIBYAN RELATIONS, UNHELPFUL LIBYAN ATTITUDE TOWARD OUR EFFORTS FACILITATE SETTLEMENT ARAB-ISRAELI DISPUTE, AND CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE

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LIBYAN MISUSE OF EQUIPMENT IN QUESTION.

2. WHEN AMBASSADOR NEXT SEES PRINCE SULTAN, HE SHOULD SAY THAT DEPT HAS SEEN HIS LETTER AND THAT QUESTION OF THE C-130'S IS PRESENTLY UNDER CONSIDERATION. DECISION WILL DEPEND ON OVERALL RELATIONS BETWEEN US AND LIBYA BUT WE WELCOME PRINCE SULTAN'S VIEWS AND THEY WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.

3. FYI: WE ARE SURPRISED THAT PRINCE SULTAN SHOULD RAISE SUBJECT WHICH IS IN CONTRAST TO PAST SAUDI CONCERNS ABOUT LIBYAN REGIME AND RECENT PROVISION OF INFORMATION ON LIBYAN SUPPORT OF ARAB TERRORISM. WE WONDER IF APPROACH POSSIBLY MOTIVATED BY LOCKHEED'S AGENT ADHAN KHASHOGGI. WE WOULD ALSO BE INTERESTED IN ANY FURTHER THOUGHTS EMBASSIES JIDDA OR TRIPOLI CAN PROVIDE ON EVOLUTION SAUDI-LIBYAN RELATIONS. END FYI. KISSINGER

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NNN

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